

was finally discovering his dream in Iraq. He told his parents that he was finally using his skills to help people.

Sgt. Michael Lalush leaves behind his parents, David and Rebecca Lalush.

Mr. President, we have lost two exceptional sons of Virginia. Their courage and unwavering service to our great country will not be forgotten. As we think of their families in mourning, let us not forget that these fine young men gave the ultimate sacrifice so that every American could continue to live in freedom.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is now closed.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT TO SUPPORT DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE OPERATIONS IN IRAQ FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of S. 762, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 762) making supplemental appropriations to support Department of Defense operations in Iraq, Department of Homeland Security, and Related Efforts for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Stevens amendment No. 435, to increase the National Debt Ceiling of the United States.

Reid amendment No. 440, to provide critical funding to safeguard nuclear weapons and nuclear material in the United States and around the world.

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 472

(Purpose: To set aside \$30,000,000 for the Department of Homeland Security for research and development and deployment of technology to protect commercial aircraft from the threat posed by man-portable air defense systems)

Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I send an amendment to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from California [Mrs. BOXER], for herself and Mr. SCHUMER, proposes an amendment numbered 472:

In chapter 6 of title I, add at the end the following:

GENERAL PROVISIONS, THIS CHAPTER

SEC. 601. Of the amounts appropriated by this chapter under the heading "DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT" under the heading

"COUNTERTERRORISM FUND", \$30,000,000 shall be available for the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Federal Aviation Administration, for research and development on, and for the initial deployment of, technology to protect commercial aircraft from the threat posed by man-portable air defense systems in order to reduce the costs of such technology and to provide for the adaptation of military countermeasure systems to commercial aircraft.

Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I thank the clerk.

If my colleague would like to make a statement at this time, I would be happy to yield, without losing my right to the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. STEVENS. Madam President, I thank the Senator from California. My only reason for standing right now is to inquire of the Senator from California if it is possible to have a time limit on her amendment.

Mrs. BOXER. I absolutely will agree. I am waiting for my coauthor, CHUCK SCHUMER. As soon as we get word as to how much time he would need, yes, we would definitely want to do that.

Mr. STEVENS. Madam President, I do thank the Senator from California. It is our hope that we will be able to get all of the amendments that are in line now completed in time to start voting by 11:50, following the Democratic caucus. So I appreciate her courtesy. And whatever is possible to enter into a time agreement, I would like to explore that. I thank her for her courtesy.

Mrs. BOXER. I thank my friend. And, yes, as soon as we get word, I will ask for a quorum call, and then we will make an agreement on the time.

Whether we speak about this for a half hour or 2 days, this is a very important amendment. I think one of the things we learned after 9/11, tragically, is that we have to take warnings very seriously—our intelligence agencies, we, as a Congress, the administration, all of us working together.

We know now that there is a threat out there that is very real. We have constructed an amendment that does not add any money to this bill but merely says that out of the funds that have been allotted for homeland defense, that \$30 million be made available immediately for research and development of countermeasures that could be taken should a shoulder-fired missile be aimed at a commercial aircraft.

I want to read to you the latest statement of the FBI. This is the FBI warning, which really must not go unheeded if we are to do our job:

... given al-Qaeda's demonstrated objective to target the U.S. airline industry, its access to U.S. and Russian-made MANPAD systems—

MANPAD stands for shoulder fired missiles—

and recent apparent targeting of U.S.-led military forces in Saudi Arabia, law enforcement agencies in the United States should

remain alert to the potential use of MANPADs against U.S. aircraft.

How clear could this be? If this body turns its back on a threat that our commercial aircraft are facing right now, it would be a very sad day, indeed.

I see Senator SCHUMER has approached the floor. What I will do is ask that a quorum call be put in place so I might discuss with him a time-frame he will need on this amendment we have worked so hard on together.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. STEVENS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. STEVENS. After conferring with the Senator from California, I ask unanimous consent that the Senator from California control the time until 10 minutes of 11 and that I control the time thereafter until 5 minutes after 11.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. I will take it from the top because this is such a crucial amendment. The amendment I am offering with Senator SCHUMER will provide \$30 million that is already in the bill—we are not adding new money—for the Department of Homeland Security to research and develop and to initially deploy countermeasure systems for commercial aircraft to combat the threat of manned portable shoulder-launched missile systems.

I have held one of these missiles. I am a little person. They are very lightweight. They can be easily used. They have been used in the past. As I say, this \$30 million is not new money. I hope, therefore, it will not be opposed on the other side of the aisle.

The chairman of the House Aviation Subcommittee, a Republican, said just yesterday that the threat of these shoulder-fired missiles being aimed at a commercial aircraft in the United States or one of our assets abroad "keeps me up at night." This is a Republican chairman of the House Aviation Subcommittee who came into this debate, in his own words, not convinced that we needed to move on this threat. But after a secret briefing—and I was there—said this threat "keeps me up at night."

Shoulder-fired missiles, such as the SA-7 and stinger missile, are available on the black market for \$25,000 to \$80,000 each. Most can be used with very little training and they take just minutes to fire. As I said, I have held one of these missiles in my hand. Almost anybody could do the same and fire one.

Nearly 30 guerrilla and terrorist groups are in possession of these weapons, including al-Qaida. We will show a chart of the terrorist groups, the guerrilla groups we believe have these